

REMARKS

Claims 29, 31-34, and 65-82 are pending. Claims 29, 31-34, 65-69, and 74-82 stand rejected. Claim 73 has been allowed. Claims 70-72 have been objected. The Examiner's indication of allowance and allowability is noted with appreciation. Claims 31-34 and 65-72 have been amended. Claims 29 and 74-82 have been canceled without acquiescence to the Examiner's rejections, without abandonment of the invention of the canceled claims, and without prejudice to applicants to file an application for patent directed to the canceled claims in the future.

Examiner Interview

Applicants' attorney acknowledges with appreciation the interview with the Examiner on February 2, 2005. In the interview, independent Claims 29, 31, and 74 and the rejection of these claims was discussed. The Examiner's helpful suggestions regarding amendments to Claim 31 to clarify the nature of the compounds claimed is appreciated.

The Objection to Claims 70-72

Claims 70-72 have been objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten to recite the claimed compounds. Claims 70-72 have been amended to recite the claimed compounds. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully respected.

The Rejection of Claims 29-34, 65-69, and 74-82 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 29-34, 65-69, and 74-82 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Withdrawal of these rejections is requested for the following reasons.

Claims 29 and 74-82 have been canceled. Claims 31-34 and 65-69 have been amended. Claim 31 is the pending independent claim from which Claims 32-34 and 65-69 depend.

Claim 31 has been amended to include the recitation of the chromophore's donor and bridge groups. Support for the amendments to Claim 31 can be found throughout the

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specification as originally filed. For example, at page 8, lines 26-29, the specification states that the invention provides a hyperpolarizable organic chromophore that is "a nonlinear optically active compound that includes a π -donor conjugated to a π -acceptor through a π -electron conjugated bridge." Claim 31 recites "a dihydrofuran-containing nonlinear optical chromophore." The acceptor group structure illustrated in Claim 31 is a dihydrofuran acceptor group. Therefore, the chromophores of Claim 31 are dihydrofuran-containing chromophores. Claim 31 also recites that the " π -electron conjugated bridge group provides electronic conjugation from the donor group to the dihydrofuran" acceptor group. The chromophore's electronic conjugation from the donor to the acceptor group is illustrated by each and every chromophore described in the application.

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Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter this amendment. Applicants believe that the amendments to Claims 31-34 and 65-72 place these claims and the application in condition for allowance. Applicants believe that the amendments to Claims 31-34 and 65-69 do not raise any new issues that require further search or consideration.

With the amendments to Claims 31-34 and 65-72, applicants believe that Claims 31-34 and 65-73 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' attorney at 206.695.1755.

Respectfully submitted,

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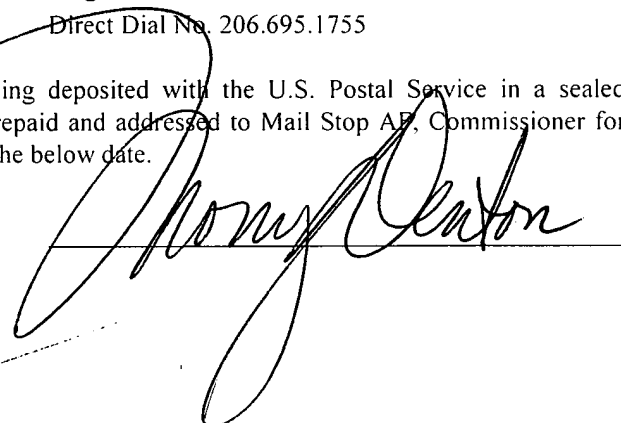
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop A7, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date:

February 14, 2005

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